

# American Celebration of Music in England

Tour #2 (7 nights / 9 days)

## Day 1

Departure via scheduled air service to Manchester, England

## Day 2

**Manchester / York**

**(D)**

Arrive in Manchester

Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to the awaiting motorcoach for transfer to York. Upon arrival, enjoy an orientation tour including time to walk the walls and ramparts

Late afternoon hotel check-in

Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight

*York - in AD 71, the Roman Ninth Legion built a fortress, Eboracum, later capital of the northern province. Here, in AD 306, Constantine the Great was proclaimed Emperor. In AD 866, the Vikings captured the city, which became Jorvik. Scandinavian influence, customs, and street names continued long after the Norman conquest. Medieval York, its prosperity based on wool, was a city of 10,000 people and forty churches, the richest city in the country after London*

## Day 3

**York**

**(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Visit York Minster (the largest medieval cathedral in England). Also visit the Shambles (the most visited among many streets with overhanging timber-framed houses), and many other attractions

Lunch, on own

***Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in England\****

Evening dinner and overnight

## Day 4

**York / Coventry**

**(B,D)**

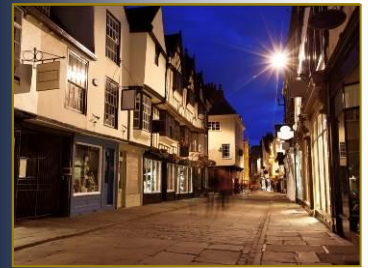
Breakfast at the hotel, followed by check-out

Visit Lincoln Cathedral for a guided tour. The Cathedral is a masterpiece of Gothic architecture and is one of the most iconic landmarks in England. Perched atop Steep Hill in the historic city of Lincoln, the cathedral offers breathtaking views of the surrounding countryside. Visitors can admire its soaring spires, intricate stonework, and magnificent stained-glass windows. Highlights include the stunning Angel Choir, the tomb of Saint Hugh of Lincoln, and the famous Lincoln Imp. Don't miss the opportunity to climb the central tower for panoramic vistas

Lunch, on own

Evening dinner and overnight

*Coventry was once a bustling hub for the production of cloth, clocks, bicycles, automobiles and munitions. It was this last industry that drew the German Luftwaffe in WWII: on the night of 14 November 1940, the city was so badly blitzed that the Nazis coined a new verb, coventrieren, meaning 'to flatten'. A handful of medieval streets that escaped the bombers offer a glimpse of old Coventry*



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**Day 5****Stratford / Coventry****(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Excursion to Stratford to enjoy a tour of the Shakespeare properties. Start with the half-timbered house that is Shakespeare's Birthplace. The house itself is part museum and part shrine and is of course, the house where the bard was born in 1564

Also visit Anne Hathaway's Cottage, which is situated around one mile outside of Stratford. In truth, the cottage is more a farmhouse than a cottage. See the Hathaway bed in addition to the beautiful gardens, orchard and Shakespeare tree garden. Also visit Holy Trinity Church, which occupies a truly magical setting amongst some trees next to the river. The church itself is typically English, demonstrated by the tower, transepts and the perpendicular nave and aisle. Shakespeare is buried on the north side of the chancel

*Lunchtime Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in England\**

Lunch, on own

Afternoon at leisure for sightseeing, shopping, or other activities

Return to Coventry for dinner and overnight

**Day 6****Oxford / Windsor / London****(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel, followed by check-out

Transfer to London via Oxford to tour the world-famous town. The city of Oxford grew up around the University of Oxford - one of the world's oldest and most prestigious seats of learning. The importance and wealth of the university is projected through the scale and grandeur of the college buildings throughout the city. Pass some of the oldest colleges such as the 13th Exeter College, the impressive Bodleian Library and Baliol College, which is something of an assembly line for British Prime Ministers

Lunch, on own

Next, visit Windsor for a tour of Windsor Castle, built 900 years ago by William the Conqueror to guard the western approach to London. Today, it is England's largest castle and also the largest inhabited stronghold in the world. Highlights of the visit will be St. George's Chapel and, subject to royal commitments, the State Apartments

Continue to London for dinner and overnight

*Established 1,250 years ago by King Aethelbald, London became an important Roman city. It was resettled by the Saxons in the fifth century, after the end of the Roman occupation. London has been scourged by the plague (1665) and was almost entirely destroyed by the Great Fire (1666). World War II's "Blitzkrieg" tore up the city considerably. She stands today as a monument to perseverance, culture, excitement, history, and greatness*

**Day 7****London****(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

A guided tour of London includes the residential and shopping districts of Kensington and Knightsbridge. Pass Westminster Abbey, where most English Kings and Queens have been crowned since 1066, and where many are buried. See Whitehall and Trafalgar Square with Nelson's Column, pass Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament to Buckingham Palace, where we may see the Changing of the Guard. Continue along Fleet Street to St. Paul's Cathedral, and also see the 900-year-old Tower of London, whose



**Music Celebrations International**  
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construction was initiated by William the Conqueror

Lunch, on own

*Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in England\**

Evening dinner and overnight

**Day 8**

**London**

**(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Enjoy a day at leisure in London. The Tour Manager is at the group's disposal. Options include a visit to a museum, doing some shopping, or taking in the atmosphere of this cosmopolitan city. Ask your guide how to get to the shops of Oxford and Bond Street, or perhaps Harrods

Lunch, on own

Evening Farewell Dinner, and overnight

**Day 9**

**Depart for home**

**(B)**

Breakfast at the hotel, followed by check-out

Transfer to the London Airport for the return flight

*\*Subject to confirmation*

**This is a very flexible itinerary.** *Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.*

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